

Parks while attending a rally as a student at Harvard Law. Mr. Bell ultimately left the law school in 1990 over principle and concluded his career at NYU Law School. He summed up his actions in a speech to Harvard students, saying, "Your faith in what you believe must be a living, working faith that draws you away from comfort and security, and toward risk through confrontation." Mr. Bell believed that it would be hypocritical to urge his students to defy what is unjust, while not practicing his own precepts.

Largely credited as the originator of critical race theory, Mr. Bell explored the nuances that exist in race-relations. Known as a soft-spoken gentleman, the professor unapologetically challenged conservatives and liberals, alike, on shared societal beliefs concerning race in America. While many viewed the 1954 desegregation decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* as monumental in the fight towards equality, Mr. Bell wrote that in light of the consequences of *Brown*, conditions for minorities might have worked out better if the court had instead ordered governments to provide both races with truly equivalent schools. Mr. Bell focused on motives just as much as outcomes, and while he generally supported litigation, he also cautioned that seemingly favorable rulings often yield disappointing results. His discourse prepared and empowered us to fight beyond court decisions and dig deeper into the implementation of policies which affect underrepresented communities.

Mr. Bell will always be revered as a genuine, authentic champion in the struggle for civil rights. Robert Frost famously stated that "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." We are all honored that Derrick Bell took the road less traveled, for his contributions have truly inspired others to make a difference.

COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS FOR H.R.
3078, H.R. 3079, AND H.R. 3080

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2011

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION,
Washington, DC, October 6, 2011.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Longworth House
Office Building, Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Long-
worth House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP AND RANKING MEMBER LEVIN: I am writing pursuant to section 4022 of the Internal Revenue Service Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (Pub. L. No. 105-206) (the "IRS Reform Act"), which requires the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation (in consultation with the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of the Treasury) to provide a complexity analysis of tax legislation reported by the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Ways and Means, or a Conference Report containing tax provisions. The complexity analysis is required to report on the complexity and administrative issues raised by provisions that directly or indirectly amend the Internal Revenue Code and that have widespread applicability to individuals or small businesses. The IRS Reform Act mandates that certain information be included in the complexity analysis, if determinable. The IRS Reform Act requires the complexity analysis to be included in the appropriate committee report, or provided to the Members of the committee reporting the legislation as soon as practicable after the report is filed.

This letter fulfills the requirement for a complexity analysis of H.R. 3078, the "United States-Columbia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act," H.R. 3079, the "United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act," and H.R. 3080, the "United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act," as reported by the Committee on Ways and Means on October 6, 2011. We have determined that there are no items in these three bills that have widespread applicability to individuals or small businesses, as defined in Section 4022 of the IRS Reform Act.

I want to bring to your attention another provision of the IRS Reform Act. It appears that a point of order may be raised against a bill where the committee report for that bill does not contain a complexity analysis, unless the Ways and Means Committee has the complexity analysis printed in the Congressional Record prior to the consideration of that bill.

If you have any questions, please contact Brion Graber or me.

Sincerely,

THOMAS A. BARTHOLD,
Chief of Staff.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR
IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2011

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago today the United States pursued the perpetrators of 9/11 into the mountains of Afghanistan. Our original mission—which I supported—was to bring justice to members of al Qaeda who planned and executed one of the largest mass murders in history and the Taliban who enabled al Qaeda.

Members of the U.S. military have done everything that has been asked of them. They have fought heroically, and have selflessly served their country.

But, thanks to strategic and diplomatic missteps, a disastrous and unnecessary war in Iraq that distracted the U.S. from accomplishing our original mission, and the pursuit of failed policies, we have lost our way in Afghanistan.

The war in Afghanistan has cost the United States greatly in lives and taxpayer dollars. We have lost more than 1,700 American troops in Afghanistan, with this past August being the deadliest month. Tens of thousands of Americans have been injured, maimed or made permanently disabled. Meanwhile, we continue to hemorrhage taxpayer dollars trying to sustain an unsustainable war. To date, the U.S. has spent \$454 billion—nearly half a trillion dollars—in Afghanistan.

As we make drastic cuts in infrastructure, education, social services, and federal programs here at home, we are spending tens of billions of dollars per year to build critical infrastructure in Afghanistan, investing in roads and bridges in Afghanistan, and training Afghan troops and law enforcement officers.

That's wrong. We should use that money to hire teachers here at home, modernize our schools, repave our crumbling roads, rebuild our failing bridges, put sheriffs back on the roads and police back on the street.

It is long past time to bring this ten year war—the longest in the history of the United States—to a responsible end. I will continue to do everything I can in Congress to bring our troops home and to reinvest scarce federal resources in rebuilding our own country, rather than nation building in a failed state half a world away.